

The Times-Dispatch

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W. A. MILLER'S, No. 615 East Broad Street.

TUESDAY, APRIL 14, 1908.

NOW FOR ACTION.

One of the most important measures before this General Assembly, is that known as Senate bill No. 226, introduced in February by Senator McIlwaine, of Petersburg, for the establishment of the Torrens System of Land Registration in Virginia. It is a great public measure, because it affects the material development of the whole Commonwealth and the interests of all its citizens; and it is most important at this time, because now is the opportunity, while all our statute laws are being revised and a new Code is being made, to amend our antiquated land laws and to incorporate modern methods into the general body of our laws. The Torrens System has been thoroughly tested, and has been proven to meet every practical and theoretical requirement of the busy age in which we live. It was first adopted in South Australia in 1858. Queensland took it up in 1881. Victoria and New South Wales followed the lead in 1862; Tasmania in 1863; New Zealand and British Columbia in 1870; West Australia in 1874; Manitoba and Ontario in 1885.

The course pursued by England is most instructive. In 1862, some of the features of the system were introduced by what is known as Lord Westbury's act; and in 1875 many other features were embodied in what is known as Lord Cairn's act. Subsequently the House of Commons appointed a learned committee to make a thorough examination of the system, and after fully investigating the subject, this committee made an able report in 1880 recommending it in all its details. But with that conservatism which has always marked her course, it was not until 1897 that England more completely made the Torrens System her own by a comprehensive act of Parliament. And so pleased has she been with it, that in 1900 Parliament appropriated \$1,325,000 for the erection of a Land Registry Office in Lincoln's-Inn-Fields. In 1900, also, registration was made compulsory in the County of London, and it has been compulsory in the city of London since May 1, 1901.

In the United States the Torrens System has been for some years in operation in Illinois, California, Massachusetts, Oregon and Minnesota. It has been in operation in the Philippines since November 8, 1900, and will soon go into effect in Hawaii, while preparations are also being made for its introduction into Porto Rico. In Colorado the Legislature has just passed a Torrens act, drawn by Hon. Edward T. Taylor, president of the State Senate; and the matter is pending before the present Legislature of Michigan. Some legislative action has also been taken on the subject in Iowa, Nebraska, Rhode Island, and Wisconsin; while it is under discussion in the Bar Association of twelve other States, to wit: Georgia, Kentucky, Maine, Missouri, New York, North Dakota, Pennsylvania, Tennessee, Texas, Washington and West Virginia. And information has recently been received that the matter will presently be brought before the Legislature of North Carolina.

The Virginia bill has been drawn by the chairman of the committee appointed by a joint resolution of the General Assembly on February 15, 1901. It has been submitted to some of the leading experts and highest authorities in the United States on this subject and has received their commendation. It ought to be promptly reported and passed by the General Assembly. It can be demonstrated that the bill will not impose any burden on the State, but will actually bring in revenue, after paying all costs of administration. It has no compulsory requirements for registration but leaves it optional with every landowner, whether or not he will take advantage of its provisions. It offers a cheap and desirable method of clearing titles; it will enable men to deal quickly, cheaply, and certainly with real estate; it will encourage investments in lands, and by their market value; it will enable men to use their lands as a basis of cash credit, and will thereby increase the banking capital of the country; and these things will all tend to encourage immigration and to build up the waste places and develop the resources of the State. The bill will come up before the House Committee on Courts of Justice Wednesday evening, and should be favorably reported without delay.

The wedding of Miss Kathleen Nelson to Reginald Vanderbilt will take place at Newport at noon to-day in great style. The wedding guests will be housed for two days at hotels and boarding-houses at the expense of Mrs. Nelson.

Mr. Vanderbilt and Miss Nelson went to the court together to take out the license to marry. He gave his occupation as that of a "gentleman"; she gave her father's occupation in like terms.

He is twenty-two and she is twenty-one years of age. He is a Protestant and she a Catholic.

At a recent meeting of Stonewall Camp, C. V., of Portsmouth, Colonel William H. Stewart delivered an address on the life of Thomas Jefferson. The Portsmouth Star pronounces it a masterly effort.

In the opinion of Colonel Stewart of many other people this country needs to-day another Thomas Jefferson.

If there is any such person in the background who hope he will come forward promptly and make his presence known. There's work for him to do.

The New York Tribune has just entered upon the sixty-third year of its existence, and we take occasion to present our compliments to this esteemed contemporary, and to wish it many happy returns of the day.

The Tribune is a Republican newspaper, but one of the fairest and most decent and most conservative newspapers in the country, and is entitled to the respect and good will even of its opponents in politics.

ago; therefore, education is making the whites worse. Wouldn't that proposition be brushed aside at once as a non-sequitur?

Who shall say that the negroes would not have been worse; that there would not have been a greater increase in criminality in that race, had they received no schooling? Does Dr. Steel believe and does any sensible man believe that the negroes of the present generation would have been better in morals and better citizens, if they had been turned adrift in childhood and left to grow up as so many wild brutes, with no training and no instruction? Nonsense. There are bad negroes and some bad negroes have been in school, but that they are worse because of drilling and discipline they obtained at school is absurd.

Let Dr. Steel make some inquiries concerning the negroes that have been sent out of the high schools of Richmond and Lynchburg, or the Normal School at Hampton, and we think he will find that the great majority of them at least are not only not criminals, but that they are amongst the best and most useful of their race.

MOB SPIRIT IN NEW YORK.

"Every time a small boy gets run over by a trolley car in this city," says the New York Tribune, "some fool sets up the cry of 'lynch him!' and the police have to be called to protect the motorist from hysterical people wanting to work off their feelings and rowdies ready to take any excuse for making disorder."

That is an interesting state of affairs. There are accidents every now and then on the trolley lines here and hereabouts, but we have never seen any demonstration against the motorist; never heard any threats against his life. We do have lynching bees at the South every now and then, but the provocation is more than the accidental killing of somebody by a trolley car. The victim of our lynching bees is usually a brute who commits a nameless assault upon a white woman or a white child. It is strange indeed that the people at the North should raise such a cry against lynching in the South and should have so much to say about the "mob spirit in the South," when a leading Republican journal in New York admits that the mob rises up in that city with lynching in its heart every time there is a trolley car accident.

We must say for the Tribune, however, that it is usually fair and friendly in its dealing with the South.

JEFFERSON'S DEMOCRACY.

The celebration throughout the country yesterday of the birth of Thomas Jefferson brings forcibly to mind the noble heritage of political principles which he handed down to us, and the present straying after strange gods and the consequent demoralization which afflicts the party which he founded, and which successfully controlled the destiny of this country in the great formative period from the time of the Revolution until the Confederate War. The highest-sounding eulogy of his memory cannot take the place of our departed leader's simple and massive summary of the tenets of the Democratic party and the fundamental principles of this republican government, as contained in his inaugural address. In this time of heresy and schism, of defeat and confusion, it is wise and well for Democrats to consider the advisability of rallying to the faith of the original standard-bearer, and thus coming back to first principles and getting together on the good old common ground of the primitive faith.

Every biography of Jefferson contains the text of his inaugural address. It is the code of the Democratic faith. If every Democrat, regular or mugwump, will spend even the few minutes required for merely reading that one-page digest of the creed he subscribes to, he will find himself refreshed as with a cooling draught.

The Pennsylvania Legislature has just passed a new libel law which has aroused the deepest indignation of the press of the State. It seems to have originated with the ring and was rushed through in four days. A hearing of the Newspaper Press Association was refused by the Legislative Committee, but they now propose to go to the Governor and state their case.

The new law seems to be aimed at the political cartoonist especially, and from what we hear of it it is a most extravagant and unseemly exhibition of ring resentment.

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ruins of the old Liberty Hall Academy are also shown.

The Veteran also gives a portrait and biography of the late Major Norman V. Randolph.

The fine old American gentleman who rode an old away-back mare into Washington city and left her standing tied to a hitching post while he was being inaugurated President of the United States would have been one hundred and fifty-nine years old had he held out until yesterday.

The United States Senate is now evenly divided at the point where military honors are considered, there being thirteen Senators who wore the blue and thirteen who wore the gray. All the others were too young or too cautious to wear either.

The Union League Club of Chicago is about to erect a million dollar clubhouse. It will be twelve stories high. Among other things it will have one hundred and sixteen bed rooms.

Another Thomas Jefferson birthday has been celebrated and yet we are in a state of doubt as to which of the numerous political parties is the real custodian of the real Jeffersonian brand of statesmanship.

The South Carolina table is going to give a "barn dance." Now let Virginia come in with an old fashioned piano bran dance and there will be work for you.

Chicago highwaymen are ahead of those in St. Louis. They successfully held up a trolley car Sunday night and got away with the loot.

The Hon. Tom Johnson will have to add some more canvass to his circus tent before he begins the gubernatorial canvass.

Easter Monday excursionists met with something of a damp reception in Richmond yesterday, but they were very much in evidence all the same.

What if St. Louis should follow Danville's example just at this time and go dry? But there is no probability of it.

The Easter bonnet got there all right and does not have had a lovelier day for the purpose.

"Sparks From the Wires" will soon be obsolete as a head-line, if somebody does not head off that man Marconi.

The Hon. Golden Rule Jones seems to have a kind of President Diaz-Castro hold on the good city of Toledo.

The fishermen had a tedious and rather damp time inaugurating the fishing season yesterday.

Trend of Thought in Dixie Land

Dallas (Tex.) News: Another month has passed and yet Judge Parker has refused to say anything as to what he stands for in politics. Silence is golden, to be sure, but in politics it corrodes and is spoiled in time.

Chattanooga Times: Mrs. Booker T. Washington was entertained as a guest of honor by the State Federation of Women's Clubs of Massachusetts at the convention in session at Dorchester Wednesday. We expect an explosive and righteous wrath from some of our Southern exchanges as a result; but to what purpose? If the club women of Massachusetts like that sort of thing—why let them enjoy it.

Memphis Commercial-Appeal: It might be a good idea if both political parties in 1901 would nominate candidates who would stay at home during the presidential campaign.

Montgomery Advertiser: While cotton is playing around the ten-cent mark, there is precious little of the article for delivery, and but little of that little belongs to the men who planted and made it. If the speculators want to help the country, they should set prices up to ten cents next winter so that the money can be widely circulated instead of going into the hands of a few. The present flurry will only serve to encourage the planting of a big crop of cotton and the neglect of corn.

A FEW FOREIGN FACTS.

Dr. Klefuro Yussa, of the Imperial University of Kyoto, Japan, in Brooklyn, is preparing the public libraries, as he intends to start a new library at Kyoto.

The hobbies of the three most noted English writers are: Kipling's "Tommy Atkins," Rider Haggard's agriculture and Israel Zangwill's the project of Zionism.

Count Von Buelow, the German Imperial Chancellor, is in Naples, Italy.

General Von Gossler, Germany's Minister of War, is about to resign and will be replaced by Baron von der Goltz, at present general in command of the First Army Corps.

At the Shakespeare's birthday celebration at Stratford-Avon, April 23, which will be more than usually elaborate, the principal participants will be Sir Oliver Lodge, Herbert Beerbaum Tree, the actor, and Marie Corelli, the novelist.

Andre Cheradame, the distinguished French political writer, will leave Paris on the 15th to pay a visit to this country.

Personal and General.

James A. Dumont, who has just been appointed steamer inspector at New York by Secretary Shaw, is nearly eighty years old.

General Lew Wallace has been asked to get up a Ben Hur chariot race for the Indiana State Fair this fall.

Rev. Alfred Noon, secretary of the Massachusetts Total Abstinence Society, says that as a result of a recent crusade more than 12,000 pledges have been signed.

John K. Cowen, the former president of the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad, has just returned from Cuba, where he says there is great possibilities for railroads.

General Joseph C. Breckinridge, inspector general of the army, will be promoted to the grade of major general of the line next Monday, and will be immediately retired.

Captain Thomas Rynning, of the Arizona Rangers, and forty of his men will accompany the fifty rough riders who will go from Southern Arizona to the Grand Canyon, Col., to greet President Roosevelt and present him with a monster black bear.

FINE SESSION OF THE GRAND RULING

R. George Shackell, of Richmond, Honored With the Highest Office.

Murphy's was a scene of many badges Sunday and all day yesterday. The delegates to the Grand Ruling of the Federal Myrtle Circle came from all parts of the State and West Virginia, and in a bi-annual convention. The meeting was called to order at Pickett Camp Hall and much new business was transacted. The new grand officers were also appointed, as follows:

R. George Shackell, of Richmond, Grand Ruler; John B. Barker, of Norfolk, Past Grand Ruler; Henry Schneider, of Winchester, Vice Grand Ruler; Rev. Herbert M. Hope, Petersburg, Grand Chaplain; William A. Grubb, Norfolk, Grand Recorder; T. E. Matthews, Martinsburg, W. Va., Grand Treasurer; W. J. Gilman, Richmond, Va., Grand Marshal; A. J. Lilliston, Accomac, Grand Warden; E. R. Barksdale, Portsmouth, Grand Warden; John Mallory, Petersburg, Grand Scribe.

After convention a dinner was tendered the delegates by Richmond Ruling of Concordia Hall, which occupied until 8:30, when they repaired to the Assembly Hall at Murphy's Annex Hotel for an entertainment of local talent, most artistic in its character. After prayer by Mr. Johnson, the Grand Ruler called upon Colonel John S. Harwood to take the chair and make a few remarks of welcome to delegates and visitors.

Prof. Kass followed with a piano solo then a song by Miss Blanche Paup, after which "The Scarf Dance" by four little girls in Confederate colors, in which they will be seen at the Confederate Bazaar later; they were Misses Helen Thompson, Margaret Manning, Alice Stout, and Mamie Harlow and were accompanied by Miss Florence Conn.

Another group of pretty, though young dancers, was a novelty step dance, called "The Last Rose of Summer," by the two little Misses Harlow, Miss Jane May Johnson and Louise Stout.

The Hon. F. H. Duckwitz, of Philadelphia, the Supreme Myrtle Ruler, made some forcible remarks on the strength of fraternal orders, and especially the Fraternal Myrtle Circle, and was followed by a selection rendered by Mr. DeSylvia, on the flute.

The West-End Angels, with Harry Lucy, came next as mandoline players, and then his two artistic little sisters, May and Georgia Lucy, with popular songs and ditties, Lonnie Wilson and his friends, Willie Freeman, were there with their serio-comic matter, and pleased exceedingly.

Mr. Joseph Wallerstein made a short, though witty speech, eulogizing the late Dr. Siegel, whom he knew well, and then he declared the Fraternal Myrtle Circle the best fraternal organization in America, as it protected in sick, accident and provided in death.

He said he was glad he was a member and rejoiced that the late doctor was so largely insured in so good an order.

Mr. Julius Spiegel rendered two numbers on his sweet-toned zither and the best and different numbers by the Ferguson Instrumental Company with seven instruments.

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Just, but that the Commonwealth of Virginia was a free and independent State. Thomas Jefferson believed profoundly in education. He has been accused of entertaining strange beliefs as to religion, but every evidence points to the fact that he was not an irreligious man. Nothing in the history of American life is more beautiful than his devotion to his wife and children.

Jefferson rendered incalculable service in the cause of free politics, a free press, a free people and free religion. A letter of regret was read from Admiral Dewey, who is president of the Thomas Jefferson Memorial Association. Prior to the banquet the Board of Governors met and practically decided that the proposed memorial to Thomas Jefferson be erected shall take the form of a building.

EMPIRE STATE DEMOCRACY

Ex-Senator Hill Scores the Republicans and Pleads for Harmony.

(By Associated Press.) ALBANY, N. Y., April 13.—One hundred representative members of the Democratic press of New York sat down at the banquet of the State Democratic Editorial Association in celebration of the birthday of Thomas Jefferson.

Former United States Senator David B. Hill was one of the speakers. "The Empire State Democracy" came in for his attention. He attacked the promises and policies of the present Republican administration in this State, especially assailing the various measures adopted to secure the abolition of direct taxation for State purposes. These he characterized as measures designed to cover up a deficit in the State treasury, to which, he said, he had himself called attention last year. The excise increase law Mr. Hill denounced as purely partisan legislation, designed to punish large Democratic cities, especially New York, for holding to the principles of the Democratic party. He ridiculed the policies of President Roosevelt as vacillating and unduly tender of the great monopolies, and said the present Republican administration was a morning delay in dealing with the trust question. His final plea was for true Democratic harmony, which he declared would assure victory for the party.

FAST TRAIN DITCHED: TWO MEN KILLED

(Special to The Times-Dispatch.) CHARLOTTE, N. C., April 13.—The Southern Railway's south-bound fast mail train, No. 97, was ditched near Lexington, N. C., this evening by striking a rock on the track. The train is the regular mail train leaving Washington at 8 o'clock in the morning. The train was derailed three miles north of Lexington about 7 o'clock. Engineer Dan Davis, of Danville, Va., was killed and the fireman is missing. The engine struck a rock which had rolled down the embankment, was thrown crosswise of the track, and is a total wreck. It will take twelve hours to clear the track. No others were injured.

VANDERBILTS ARE FINED FOR FAST RUNNING

(By Associated Press.) NEWPORT, R. I., April 13.—Alfred G. Vanderbilt, Paul Salter, his chauffeur, and Reginald Vanderbilt, were each fined \$10 and costs to-day in special sessions of the District Court for running their motor car, a Chrysler, at excessive speeds ten miles an hour through Middletown.

RICHM'D HORSE ENTERED IN CAPITAL CITY STAKE

(Special to The Times-Dispatch.) HARTFORD, CONN., April 13.—F. M. Hanson, of Richmond, Va., has entered his bay gelding, Clarion, by Russell Pet, in the Capital City \$5,000 stake of the Charles O. Park's Grand Circuit races. This is the stake for 218 trotters, and Mr. Hanson's bay will meet thirteen other highly tried performers, including Albie Jay, Monroe, Lady Patchie, Eddie Connor and others.

Trinity Wins Debate.

(Special to The Times-Dispatch.) DURHAM, N. C., April 13.—Trinity won the debate in the contest with Emory College to-night. The judges were out twenty minutes and when they came in, Governor Chandler, of Georgia, acted as spokesman. He complimented the debaters. During the early part of the evening there was a hard downpour of rain and this kept away from the hall many, but for the rain there would have been a tremendous crowd present.

Drys Win in Buckingham.

(Special to The Times-Dispatch.) MOUNT VINO, VA., April 13.—There was an election on last Saturday in the Courthouse District between the wets and the drys. One hundred and seventy votes cast, and the drys won by a vote of two to one. Every registered voter in the district answered to his name except ten. Before the present suffrage law was adopted the usual number of votes cast was over 300.

Fortress of Frajama Captured.

(By Associated Press.) MADRID, April 13.—Dispatches from Melilla, Morocco, announce that the insurgent Moors have captured the fortress of Frajama, a part of the garrison escaped and took refuge in Melilla. Private dispatches state that fifty men and one officer of the garrison perished in the explosion of a mine under the fortress wall. Among the wounded at Melilla is the Paccha, who commanded the fort.

Richmond Arrivals in New York.

(Special to The Times-Dispatch.) NEW YORK, April 13.—R. Nitcher, Ashland; W. P. Mayo, W. T. Dabney, Hoffman; R. L. Maury and wife, Fifth Avenue; A. W. Hankins and wife, Manhattan.

NEGRO BAND NOT OBJECTIONABLE

Several of the members of Pickett Camp were asked last night what they thought about the situation in New Orleans and the possibility of marching behind blind negro bands at the reunion next month. The replies were that for Pickett Camp it would have its drum corps and would march behind that. That they did not think it made much difference if the negro bands were in the parade. One veteran said they used to march behind a negro band during the war. The camp as a body or as individuals is not worrying over the matter.

Despite the rain storm of last night, the faithful members of the camp to the number of about twenty, attended the regular meeting.

Letters were received from Mrs. Joseph Bryan and Mrs. Page Aylett Royall, as Mr. Bryan invited the camp to attend the opening of the campaign to-morrow night. Royall expressed her appreciation of the camp's acceptance of her invitation to attend on the night set apart for that organization.

The report of the treasurer for the year was received, accompanied by the endorsement of the Auditing Committee. The camp had received during the year \$383.17, disbursed \$225.00, balance in the treasury \$228.17.



BRENT OF THE BADGER

Romance of the Kidnapping of a Governor-General.

Copyright, by PHILIP LITTLE.

"Ah, I mean that he knew that he could not be hung if you could be kidnapped. That he discovered some weeks before he made all of his plans. He found that, with your usual British fondness for red tape, no person could be executed unless the governor general was present. Therefore, if the governor general was kidnapped, as you were, he was safe."

"But why did he not kidnap me without going ashore?"

"That was not theatrical enough for dear papa. He loves show in an affair like that! I think also that he found it just a bit slow on board at that time. You see, there are times when daddy (he would murder me if he knew that I told you) suffers from homesickness."

"Homesickness! But I thought—"

"O, I know what you think."

"No, I'm sure that you do not!"

"Ah, but I do just the same!"

"What is it?"

"Papa has told you that sad, sad story of a wife in every port that he does not know just whose daughter I am, and all that stuff!"